

RESOLUTION NO. 12-921

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are apprised that Dr. Mary Jane Caylor, longtime educator, volunteer and civic leader, retired as the Executive Director of Big Spring Partners on September 28, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Caylor graduated from Huntsville High School, May 1960; earned a B.S. Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Alabama, August 23, 1963 and earned a M.A. Degree in Special Education from the University of Alabama, May 30, 1966. She earned an A.A. Certification in Special Education from the University of Alabama, May 30, 1970; an A.A. certification in Administration from the University of Alabama, March 1980; and an Ed.D in Educational Administration and Planning from the University of Alabama, May 10, 1981; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Caylor spent the majority of her career in education, beginning in 1962 with her first teaching job at East Clinton Elementary School. She served as Superintendent of Huntsville City Schools from 1982 to 1991 and on the State Board of Education from 1995 to 2011. While her four terms on the State Board of Education required extensive travel to Montgomery and various schools and community colleges across the state, she continued to actively serve on various boards and commissions across North Alabama; and,

WHEREAS, after successfully organizing Huntsville's bicentennial celebration, Dr. Caylor was selected in 2005 as the first Director of Big Spring Partners, a non-profit downtown development organization. Her father, Charles Smith, had co-chaired the sesquicentennial celebration 50 years earlier; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Caylor played a key role in a number of recent downtown improvements, including construction of the Thrasher Memorial Fountain between the Embassy Suites Hotel and Von Braun Center arena, a \$250,000 gift from the Tom Thrasher family honoring the long time civic and business leader. She also managed efforts to build the \$3 million Huntsville-Madison County Veterans Memorial, all the while, representing North Alabama on the state school board before stepping down in 2010; and,

WHEREAS, in recognition of her vast knowledge and leadership, Dr. Caylor has been honored with numerous local, state, and national awards. She provided invaluable time and service to civic and community involvement, and has written several publications which have appeared in various professional and other journals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that we extend our sincerest gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Mary Jane Caylor for her dedicated involvement and outstanding service to the City of Huntsville.

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Dr. Mary Jane Caylor

October 25, 2012

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ADOPTED this the 25th day of October, 2012.

President of the City Council of the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 25th day of October, 2012.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama